

## 9. Working Groups Reports

### 9.1. Planting & Regeneration Working Group

#### Council report

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|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Date of meeting</b>      | 24 September 2020                          |
| <b>Author</b>               | Councillor Pauling, Chair of Working Group |
| <b>Responsible Director</b> | Nadeine Dommissse, Chief Operating Officer |

#### Purpose

1. The purpose of the Planting and Regeneration Working Group is to develop a proposal for a region-wide ecological planting and native regeneration programme for inclusion in the next Long-Term Plan.
2. The purpose of this paper is to provide Council with an update on discussions and actions from the meeting of the Working Group on 9 September 2020.

#### Recommendations

##### That the Council:

- **Receives the paper with Working Group notes and actions.**

#### Key points

#### Background

3. The purpose of the Planting and Regeneration Project is for the Working Group to develop a proposal for a region-wide ecological planting and native regeneration programme for inclusion in the next Long-Term Plan. This should:
  - Bring together existing Council initiatives (rivers planting, forest management, the Soil Conservation and Revegetation programme and others);
  - Seek alignment with existing non-Council initiatives; and
  - Seek benefits across a range of Council priorities (climate change, freshwater quality, biodiversity, carbon offsets).
4. In designing the proposal, the working group should explore external funding and partnership avenues and seek opportunities to support COVID-19 recovery including identifying and preparing short term 'shovel ready' projects. The intent is that the proposal will be essentially 'building the foundations for the journey' over the next 15-20 years that we are about to embark on.
5. This on-the-ground project would build on the work Environment Canterbury has done over the past 10 years establishing a comprehensive planning framework. This would provide an opportunity to connect with communities, landowners, and the private sector to deliver visible biodiversity, freshwater and climate change projects. It is

acknowledged that this would require a significant long-term investment – it would require additional spending, an investment in our land management expertise, and a new way of working with landowners.

## Working Group Meeting – Notes and Actions

6. The attached table highlights the key topics of discussion and subsequent actions identified by the Working Group at the 9 September 2020.

## Attachments

Working Group Notes and Actions

|                       |                                  |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>File reference</b> | [SharePoint link for this paper] |
| <b>Legal review</b>   |                                  |
| <b>Peer reviewers</b> | Cam Smith, Nadeine Dommissie     |

## ATTACHMENT 1 – MEETING NOTES & ACTIONS

### ME URU RAKAU (PLANTING REGENERATION) WORKING GROUP – 9 SEPTEMBER 2020

| Issue/action/matter  | Actions   |
|--|---|
| <p>A dedicated project manager has been appointed to work on the Me Uru Rakau (Planting Regeneration) programme for the next twelve months. We are planning to work through the benefits realisation of the programme to clarify the value for the community and test our thinking.</p>  | <p>Undertake a Benefits Realisation workshop with the Working Group at the next meeting</p> |
| <p>The Working Group are shaping up a signature programme entitled “Plant Up My Patch’ (P.U.M.P). The focus is on protection, restoration and planting along with habitat and natural succession. Initial discussions with key external stakeholders have been positive and some potential challenges have been highlighted.</p> | <p>The Working Group will continue to scope the programme and obtain ongoing feedback.</p>  |
| <p>The Working Group discussed approaches for undertaking a pilot on Environment Canterbury land which would provide a clearer demonstration of how the programme could be implemented.</p>  | <p>The Working Group and staff will continue to work through options and approaches.</p>    |
| <p>For next steps, the Working Group will write up a brief summary stocktake and commence development of a programme delivery plan.</p>  | <p>Preparation for the next working group meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2020</p>     |